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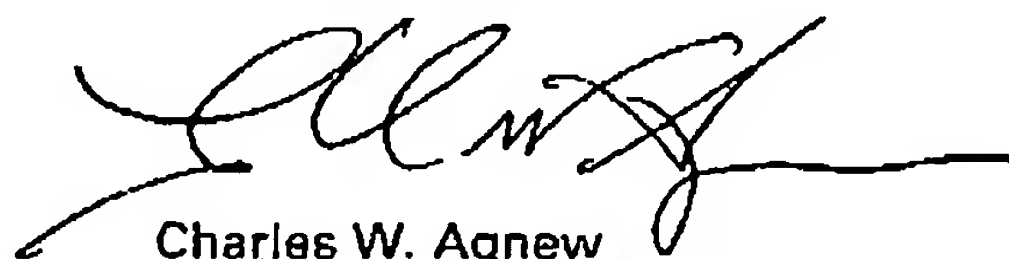
Group Art Unit 3738
TO: Examiner Javier G. Blanco DATE: March 10, 2006
COMPANY: United States Patent and Trademark Office
FACSIMILE NO.: 571-273-8300
FROM: Charles W. Agnew NO. OF PAGES 5
(including this cover sheet).

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In Re Application of: Pavcnik et al.
Atty. Docket No.: PA-5213-CIP2 Customer No.: 9896
Serial No.: 10/642,372 Group Art Unit: 3738
Filed: August 15, 2003 Examiner: Javier G. Blanco
For: IMPLANTABLE VASCULAR DEVICE

Please enter and make of record the enclosed amendment to application Serial No. 10/642,372. The following documents are enclosed with this transmission:

Transmittal of Response to Election/Restriction Requirement (2 pages)
Response to Election/Restriction Requirement (2 pages)


Charles W. Agnew
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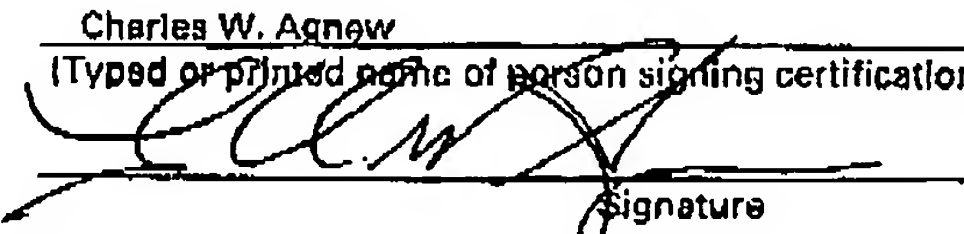
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Serial No. 10/642,372

PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Pavcnik et al.

Atty. Docket No.: PA-5213-CIP2

Customer No.: 9896

Serial No.: 10/642,372

Group Art Unit: 3738

Filed: August 15, 2003

Examiner: Javier G. Blanco

For: IMPLANTABLE VASCULAR DEVICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313

**TRANSMITTAL OF RESPONSE TO
ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

SIR:

Please make of record the following papers relating to the above-identified application:

Response to Election/Restriction Requirement (2 pages)

FEE FOR CLAIMS

	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid For	No. Extra	Rate	Calculations
Total No. of Claims	39	39	0	x \$ 0.00 =	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims	15	15	0	x \$200 =	\$ 0.00
Multiple Dependent Claim(s), if applicable				x \$360 =	N/A
				TOTAL FEE:	\$0.00

Serial No. 10/642,372

PATENT


No additional fee is due at this time. In the event of improper payment of a required fee, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or to credit Deposit Account No. 13-2528 as required to correct the error.

Please address all correspondence to:

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Respectfully,

Date: March 10, 2006


Agent for Applicants
Charles W. Agnew
Reg. No. 44,497

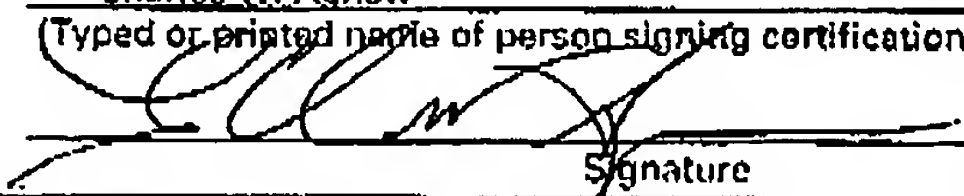
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In Re Application of: Pavcnik et al.

Atty. Docket No.: PA-5213-CIP2

Serial No.: 10/642,372

Group Art Unit: 3738

Filed: August 15, 2003

Examiner: Javier G. Blanco

Title: IMPLANTABLE VASCULAR DEVICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VA

SIR:

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
UNDER 35 U.S.C. §121

In response to the Election/Restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 in the Office Action of February 10, 2006, Applicants elect Species CCC from the Medical Device Group, which the Examiner has identified as being embodied by FIG. 84. Applicant previously pointed out when traversing the election of Species CCC that a number of the other identified species very close to or conspecific with the elected species. In many cases, the only differences between the Species CCC 'genus' (as embodied by at least Species FF, GG, HH, II, JJ, MM, ZZ, and AAA) is way the one or more elements of the frame are assembled. The assembled frames essentially share the same configuration. Furthermore, no claims are directed to these differences in how the frames of the Species CCC 'genus' are

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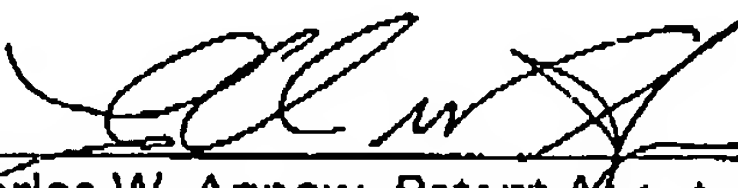
assembled and as such, these 'species' should never have been designated as such in this or the previous Election/Restriction Requirement. That is why the election was traversed in the response of November, 22, 2005. As for the Valve Prosthesis Group, Applicant elects Species A. Applicant elects Species C from the Centering Support Element Group. As previously indicated, Applicant regards claims 1-11, 16-18, 20-24, 26-32, 34, and 36 to read on Species CCC.

Although the foregoing discussion is believed to be dispositive of the issues in this case, applicants' attorney requests a telephone interview with the Examiner to further discuss any unresolved issues remaining after the Examiner's consideration of this response to the Election/Restriction requirement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 10, 2006

By 
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 Reg. No. 44,497